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Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 NEW DE 11282 251013Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 HEW-06
INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 HA-05 CA-01 SCS-06 ICA-20
EB-08 IO-14 AGRE-00 COME-00 /088 W
----------045852 252134Z /45
R 250903Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2961

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 11282

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SWEL SENV IN
SUBJECT: MONSOON FLOODS IN EASTERN INDIA

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NEW DELHI INFO BOMBAY MADRAS
FROM CALCUTTA JUL 25 IS REPEATED

QUOTE
UNCLAS CALCUTTA 1320

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: SWEL, SENV, IN
SUBJECT: MONSOON FLOODS IN EASTERN INDIA

1. AS WE MOVE INTO THE CENTRAL PERIOD OF THE NORTHEAST MONSSON IN EASTERN INDIA, THE SERIOUS FLOODING AND OVERFLOWING OF STREAMS WHICH OFTEN OCCURS IN THIS SEASON IS BEING REPORTED IN BIHAR AND ASSAM STATES.

2. IN BIHAR, THE GANGES AT PATNA WAS REPORTED TO BE ON JULY 19 A METER BELOW ITS RED MARK THAT INDICATES A FLOOD SITUATION, BUT ON SEVERAL NORTHERN TRIBUTARY SYSTEMS OF THE GANGES IN BIHAR, FLOODING WAS REPORTED TO BE CAUSING SIGNIFICANT CROP DAMAGE IAND TO BE CUTTING OFF ROAD COMMUNICATIONS TO SEVERAL
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AREAS. OVER 300,000 PEOPLE WERE REPORTEDLY AFFECTED BY THE BAGMATI RIVER, WHICH WAS ALMOST A METER ABOVE FLOOD LEVEL AT BENIBAD. THE STATE GOVRNMENT REPORTEDLY ASKED FOR ARMY HELP IN RELIEF EFFORTS IN NORTH BIHAR IN THE LIGHT OF THAT SITUATION, AS WELL AS FLOODING ON THE ADHAWARA GROUP OF RIVERS. ON JULY 23 AND 24 IT WAS REPORTED THAT THE CHIEF MINISTER HAD MADE

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AN AERIAL TOUR AND CONVENED A SPECIAL ALL-PARTY
MEETING ON THE NORTH BIHAR FLOODS, AND THAT FOUR
MILLION PEOPLE WERE AFFECTED.

3. ASSAM IS NOW EXPERIENCING THE THIRD WAVE OF A
SERIES OF HIGH WATERS ON THE BRAHMAPUTRA SYSTEM THIS
RAINY SEASON. THE PROBLEM HAS AFFECTED THE ENTIRE
LENGTH OF THE DANGEROUS RIVER THAT DOMINATES ASSAM, BUT
HAS BEEN WORST IN ITS UPRIVER, EASTERN PORTION, ESPECIALLY
AT THE TWON OF DIBRUGARH. THE BRAHMAPUTRA REPORTEDLY
BREACHED ITS BANKS IN NINETEEN LOCATIONS, AND IN ONE OF
THESE THE SITUATION WAS SERIOUS ENOUGHT TO CALL FOR
ARMY ASSISTANCE. ACCORDING TO THE UNION AGRICULTURE
MINISTER SPEAKIN IN THE UPPER HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT ON
THE BASIS OF INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY THE STATE, 200,000
PEOPLE IN 440 VILLAGES HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY FOODING
IN ASSAM THIS YEAR.

4. ONE IS TEMPTED TO ADD A REMINDER THAT TO SOME EXTEND
THESE PERIODIC MONSSON FLOODS HELP TO RENEW SOIL FERTILITY,
AS IN THE CASE OF THE PRE-AWAN DAM NILE Y SO THEY ARE
NOT A COMPLETE LOSS TO THE FARM POPULATIONSM SO FAR,
AT LEAST WE KNOW OF NO MAJOR URBAN DAMAGE
CAUSED BY FLOODS IN THESE HEAVILY RURAL STATES.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FLOODS
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 25 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780723/aaaaatjj.tel
Line Count: 95
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7eb8676d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: n/a
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Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
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Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1895651
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TAGS: SWEL, SENV, IN
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Type: TE
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